GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:448
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Environmental Pollution
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the rising environmental pollution in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has put any mechanism in place to ascertain reasons of environmental pollution and to fix the responsibilities on the authority concerned to check environmental pollution and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure the strict implementation of the pollution rules?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) The Government takes note of the level of Environmental Pollution through network of monitoring stations set up for the purpose. The air quality in the country is monitored through a network of 684 manual monitoring stations covering 302 cities. There are 64 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) covering 40 cities, facilitating 24x7 online monitoring of air pollution. The water quality in the country is measured through a network of 3000 stations. Besides there are 44 Round the Clock Water Quality Monitoring Stations (RTQMS) located in major towns on Ganga river and two in Yamuna river. In respect of noise pollution, monitoring is carried out through a network of 70 stations in 7 cities. Industrial pollution is monitored through 24x7 Continuous Emission/Effluent Monitoring Systems covering around 2500 industries in 17 categories of highly polluting industries. Besides monitoring of ambient air quality, water quality and industrial pollution, assessments are also made regarding solid waste, sewage generation, bio-medical waste, hazardous waste etc. from time to time. Available data does not always depict rising trend of pollution.

(b) The Government has set up Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for the purpose of assessment of Environmental Pollution including fixing of responsibilities wherever required. The efforts of CPCB and SPCBs/PCCs are supplemented by the Regional Offices of the Environment, Forest and Climate Change besides other institutions.

(c) In order to facilitate stricter implementation of rules related to Environmental Pollution, Government is promoting 24x7 online monitoring of emission and effluents from various sources of pollution.
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